Demolition case against the railways in Mumbai

†3444. SHRI MUNNAVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 722, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd November, 2001 and state:

(a) the present status of the case pending in the court pertaining to demolition of a structure at Kalyan, Mumbai by the Railways; and

(b) what steps are being taken by the Railways for expediting disposal of that case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The case is still *sub-judice*.

(b) All efforts are being made by the Railway to expedite the case as and when the court holds the hearing. Railway has given all the information desired by court timely to avoid any delay on Railway's account. Evidence of Railway has been completed and applicant has given his evidence. Applicant's advocate has sought some more time for filing written arguments.

Rail bridges in Andhra Pradesh

3445. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspections were carried out during 2001, to find out the rail bridges in Andhra Pradesh which need rebuilding, strengthened regirded etc., so as to keep them perfectly fit for rail traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what followup action has been taken thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) Inspections have been carried out, as per the instructions in vogue, of all the Railway Bridges at different levels such as Senior Section Engineer / Bridges, Assistant Engineers and Divisional Engineers and in some cases whem the problem warranted specific attention even at the level of Deputy Chief Engineer and Chief Bridge Engineer.

(c) As a result of these inspections, works have been prioritised into categories requiring immediate attention and others programmed to be undertaken

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in next few years subject to availability of funds. Repair and rehabilitation works required to be undertaken on priority are being carried out.

Generation of additional resources by railways

3446. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by the Railways to Gnerate additional internal resources;

(b) how far the Railways have been successful in their endeavour;

(c) the details of measures taken to plug leakages; and

(d) the resources mobilised as a result of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRIO. RAJ AGOPAL): (a) With a view to generating additional internal resources, Railways have taken a number of measures such as rationalization of freight rates and passenger fares, aggressive marketing with improved freight services and commercial initiatives, and optimum utilization of assets including commercial use of land and air space, commercial publicity on trains and at railway premises as also leasing of Right of Way along the railway track for laying Optical Fibre Cable network.

(b) As a result of various steps taken, the revenue generation on the Railways has increased progressively year after year. Earnings of the Railways in the year 2000-01 increased by 6.5% over 1999-2000 and the earnings for the year 2001-02 are anticipated to increase by 7% over 2000-01. The rationalization of fare and freight is anticipated to yield Rs. 1360 crore in the year 2002-03.

(c) and (d) Regular checks are conducted against ticketless / irregular travel and unbooked luggage. These checks are intensified during peak rush periods so as to plug revenue leakage. As a result of these drives, the Railways earned a revenue of Rs. 165.71" crore during the year 2001- 02 (up to January, 2002). Consequently, the earning from window sale of tickets during this period was Rs. 9347.21 crore as against Rs. 8660.37 crore during the corresponding period of last year, registering an increase of 7.9%

RTSAs in A.P.

3447. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs) are functioning in Andhra Pradesh, who purchase tickets from Railway Counters, on behalf of passengers;